

## Letter from the Director of AETH

Dear AETH Community,

Celebrating, Anticipating, and Participating Together

It is with joy and gratitude that I share with you our **Q3 Bulletin ECOS**. This has been a period marked by intentional planning and preparation as we look ahead to our 8th Lecture Series, one of the most significant spaces of reflection and growth in our shared journey.

At the same time, we celebrate the richness of our **community**, especially as we step into **Hispanic Heritage Month**. This is a moment to recognize the voices, contributions, and legacy of our people, and to reaffirm our commitment to amplifying them through formation, leadership, and faith.

We are also honored to anticipate the **launch of three new publications** that will further resource our community and the wider church (available through pre-sale):

- **Manual de Storytelling**
- **Antología Generación tras Generación**
- **Ebook de Hermenéutica Intercultural**

I warmly invite you to engage with the content in this newsletter. Also, explore the newness of our work, navigate the over 500 exclusive resources available in our **Member's Portal**, and discover thoughtful reflections and tools to inspire your own journey. Be sure to visit our website and follow us on social media, where we share updates, insights, and community stories. Be on the lookout for our next two Masterclasses coming up in November.

As we close this quarter and look ahead, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to our board, staff, partners, and each one of you for being part of this mission. Together, we continue to sow seeds of excellence, faith, and justice. May we walk into the future with hope, knowing that our collective work is shaping generations to come. **Let us live 1Cor. 3:9!**

With gratitude and anticipation,

*Rev. Dr. Jessica Lugo, MDiv, MBA*  
Executive Director | AETH



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# Memory and Remembrance by: Jeffrey Bamaca



September 2025 - Year 2, Volume 3

It is now more important than ever to intentionally remember and celebrate the voices and legacies of our Hispanic and Latino cultures, especially in contexts in which our histories are being suppressed and erased. As a scholar of the ancient world, as I reflect on the significance of memory and remembrance, a letter from the Roman senator, Pliny the Younger, comes to mind.

In the early second century, Pliny the Younger was traveling to Tibur. Along the Via Tiburtina, half a mile east of Rome, he spotted a monument dedicated to Marcus Antonius Pallas, a freedman and former slave of emperors Claudius and Nero. Pliny was astounded and offended, perceiving the honors as a mockery. Troubled by the rise to power of a formerly enslaved person, Pliny expressed his disbelief at the recognition of someone he considered “dirt.” Pliny’s issue was that imperial freedmen and enslaved people were viewed as obstacles to a functioning government, and their access to power, even if they were Christian freedmen, was considered grotesque. Pliny’s letter illuminates the intricate dynamics of navigating our past—histories that at times evoke repulsion but also hope.

In thinking about memory and remembrance, in his letter to the Philippians, Paul sends greetings to Christians in Caesar’s household who some scholars believe might have been enslaved Christians (4:22). Regardless, the idea of Christians in the emperor’s household (and eventually the emperor himself) would become a formational mark of power in Christian cultural history.

A mark whose reverberations we are still feeling today. It offered a powerful cultural discourse through which Christians could construct meaning and, ultimately, project themselves imperially (Christians in Caesar’s Household, 22).

For better or worse, therein lies the power of memory – it is more than a mere recording of the past but a process through which identity is formed. Hispanic Heritage Month then is an opportunity to participate in a formational process – to remember where we have come from, recognize where we find ourselves, and dream about where we can go.

In his book, *Mañana: Christian Theology from a Hispanic Perspective*, Justo Gonzalez poignantly identifies the cultural amnesia that was present and is still prevalent today (4). This amnesia is characterized by the “forgetting” of our origins, specifically the denial of our violent histories and the suppressing of our stories of migration. Remembering then is vital because it can serve as an antidote to this amnesia. This Hispanic Heritage Month then, let us reflect honestly about our histories and think about what it means to be the Latino church today.

May this serve as an invitation to remember that we cannot engage in the task(s) of theology alone – apart from our histories or communities. In John’s prologue, we read that the word became flesh and in doing so entered history, making our stories his own (1:14). Let us then courageously engage our histories and celebrate the beauty of our heritage.

**¡FELIZ MES DE  
LA  
HISPANIDAD!**  
HAPPY HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH!

*Jeffrey Bamaca is a Ph.D student in Religion at Claremont Graduate University, specializing in Early Christianity and the New Testament. In addition, Jeffrey serves as the Director of Discipleship at a local church: Restoration Los Angeles. He is also part of our Young Leaders.*



## There has been a great deal of exciting activity at the Justo and Catherine González Resource Center in recent months.



to begin, we are delighted to welcome two new members to our team: Stephen Di Triolio and Karl Lehman. Stephen is a PhD candidate in the Department of History and Ecumenics at Princeton Theological Seminary and joins us through the Hispanic Theological Initiative (HTI) as an intern. Karl brings over twenty-five years of experience as the former CEO of Childkind, a nonprofit organization serving children with medical and developmental disabilities. He now volunteers his time and expertise with the Center.

In June, we had the pleasure of hosting both Stephen and Karl for an onboarding training session with our staff. We are deeply grateful for their commitment and are excited about the contributions they will make—especially in supporting the digital preservation of the works of Justo and Catherine González.

Speaking of the digital collection, we are thrilled to share that **315 documents** have now been uploaded and are available online. As you may recall, AETH has enacted a new policy granting all members full access to the Justo and Catherine González Digital Collection. This growing archive includes sermons, Bible studies, academic lectures, and more—resources that we believe will serve as invaluable tools for theological formation across our communities.

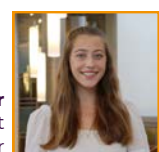
Thanks to the excellent work of our colleague Junior Fernandes, our website, <https://gonzalezcenter.org>, has been updated with improved navigation and is more visually appealing. If you are a member of AETH or a Friend of the Center, we invite you to explore the digital collection and see the latest updates for yourself.

Lastly, for those who are curious to learn more about the work of the **Resource Center**, we invite you to consider becoming a Friend of the Center. Friends are those who support our mission financially and play an essential role in sustaining our efforts. In return, they receive regular updates about what's happening at the Center, along with exclusive materials such as meditations and reflections. We are always exploring meaningful ways to involve our Friends more deeply in the life and work of the Center.



**If you are interested in becoming a Friend, you can join by making a minimum donation of \$15 monthly or \$200 annually at [gonzalezcenter.org/friends-of-the-center](https://gonzalezcenter.org/friends-of-the-center). If you'd like to learn more about the Friends of the Center, feel free to contact our Program Specialist, Sophia Porter, at [sporter@aeth.org](mailto:sporter@aeth.org).**

**Sophia Porter**  
"Amigos/Amigas del Centro" Program Specialist  
Justo & Catherine González Resource Center





## The *"Maestro a Maestro"* retreat concludes, leaving the participants transformed.

Orlando, FL – The highly anticipated "Maestro a Maestro" retreat, an intensive, immersive, in-person course designed for Hispanic theological education, successfully concluded its week-long program on August 1st. Hosted in Orlando, Florida, the retreat welcomed 13 dedicated participants from across the nation, all instructors from Bible institutes and ministry formation programs of the esteemed [Capacity Building for Bible Institutes](#) cohort, a collaborative program between AETH and Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary with the purpose of building the capacity of the Bible institutes and strengthening their unique role within the ecology of theological education.

The course was spearheaded by renowned experts in theological education, Dr. Elizabeth Conde-Frazier and Prof. Iraida Pizarro, whose leadership guided the attendees through a rich curriculum. Complementing the academic rigor and adding a spiritual dimension to the retreat, Chaplain Rev. Omar Johnson enriched the retreat and led the liturgical sessions, fostering an environment of reflection and profound growth.

Upon receiving their participation certificates, the participants expressed profound gratitude. Attendees universally lauded the week as "compelling" and "transformational," others declared to have more clarity into the "role of the Bible institute." Early feedback offered an enthralling glimpse into their deeply positive experiences. "After this retreat, I realized the role of the Bible institute as a work of justice... How the Bible institute can partner with God in the work of social holiness," explained Professor Jeffrey Bamaca of RLA College.



## Professor Carito Herandez from Centro Hispano de Estudios Teológicos - CHET added:

*"This week I received powerful, robust, transformative training, focused on a practical theology for structuring critical thinking and critical reflections, on how to pose real problems and seek viable, transformative proposals so we can bring this information and learning to our institutes, work hand in hand with them, and increasingly improve all of our institutional processes—the pastoral and theological aspects we're developing. It's been an incredible experience for me because I feel equipped to share this knowledge with my colleagues and with the team. And the number one goal, I believe, that every teacher should have in their hearts is how to implement it with the goal of transforming lives, transforming minds and hearts, and impacting the lives of others. So, I believe these are very powerful, necessary, up-to-date, and relevant tools needed to review what we're doing. And by reviewing them, they will generate proposals, concerns, and new ways of rethinking, relearning, unlearning, and focusing on what the future holds for us as an institute."*

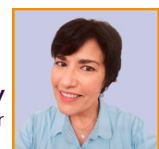


**Prof. Carito Herandez, CHET**

For her part, Professor Ramona Acevedo who teaches at Instituto Bíblico Ebenezer states, "I came with expectations of learning something more, because we're always learning, but this time I was amazed because it wasn't just adding to what I know, what I know about being a teacher, it was something deeper, something more beautiful. I had an experience with a strategy I learned years ago, but I didn't really put it into practice. I didn't work on it. And now in this workshop we worked on it, and it helped me to be concise, it helped me see things a little more differently. It opens your mind. I always think I have an open mind for learning. But in a way where, as we say in English, 'a wild moment.' And I think it was an experience. It was intense, but the experience you receive, the information you receive, is worth it. To recommend it... yes. But you have to come with an open mind and be prepared to truly be challenged, because this isn't just about, 'Okay, I have an open mind. Don't worry!' No. You will be challenged, and you need to accept that learning is much more, deeper than you can imagine."

The "Maestro a Maestro" course, which ran from July 28th to August 1st, has undoubtedly left an enduring and positive impact on all who attended.

**Dr. Marta Noemi Luna, EDD, MDIV**  
Community Engagement Manager





AETH is more than just an organization—it's a vibrant comunidad dedicated to fostering rigorous academic inquiry, spiritual formation, and impactful leadership within Hispanic theological education. We are a network of scholars, practitioners, and students committed to advancing theological discourse that speaks to the unique experiences and contributions of Hispanic peoples.

## As an AETH member, you will unlock a world of exclusive benefits designed to enrich your theological work:



- **Vibrant Community and Unparalleled Networking Opportunities:** Connect with a powerful network of Hispanic scholars, educators, pastors, and theology students. Engage in enriching dialogues, forge lasting collaborations, and find mentorship in a supportive comunidad.



- **Exclusive Access to the Member Portal:** Your New Resource Space: A new resource space where AETH members can exclusively access articles, webinars, and other materials that will enrich their biblical and theological learning and growth. Visit today and immerse yourself in this treasure of knowledge designed to empower your work!



- **Exclusive Access to Premier Events:** Enjoy special member pricing at our annual conferences, regional meetings, and webinars—events designed to inspire, educate, and connect.



- **And much more...** Discover endless additional opportunities designed for your development!

**Join a community that celebrates and cultivates the richness of Hispanic theological thought.**

Visit [www.aeth.org](http://www.aeth.org) to learn more and become a member of our community or to renew your membership today!

**AETH membership**

**Renew Membership**



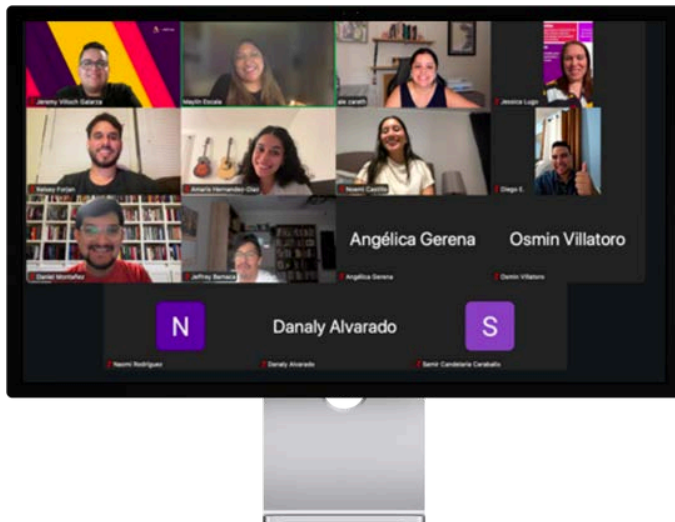
**CONTACT US**

**[membership@aeth.org](mailto:membership@aeth.org)**

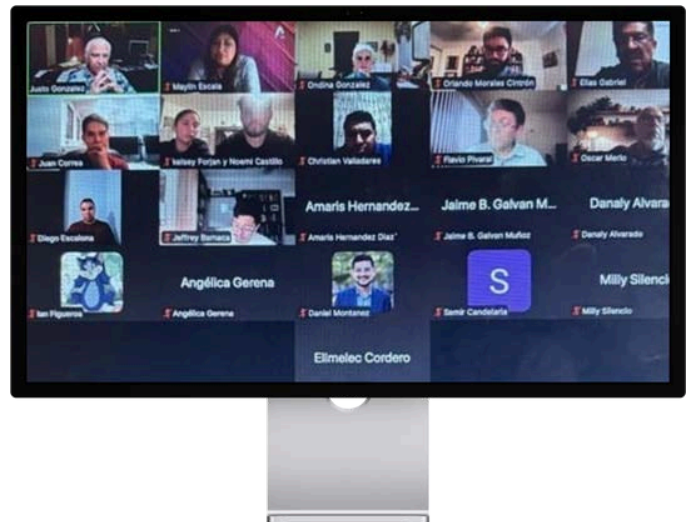
**Dr. Marta Noemi Luna, EDD, MDIV**  
Community Engagement Manager



## Leadership Development



## Writing for Print Publication



**2025 has been an enriching experience for our Young Líderes program.** We launched with an online gathering titled Young Líderes who? In which all participants were invited to discover what the young líderes program was about. We followed up that session with *Theology en el barrio* with Dr. Omar Palafox. Where he guided us through how to continue to shape our leadership as we lead in our different contexts. Our last two online gatherings continued to build momentum by continuing to offer safe spaces for learning and development. These sessions not only strengthened the confidence and skills of participants but also created a sense of community where young leaders could share ideas, collaborate and envision their impact together.

The gathering on *Leadership Development* with Alexandra Zareth emphasized building leadership capacity by fostering critical reflection, cultural competency and collaboration. Participants have learned practical tools to strengthen their roles as leaders in their local contexts while connecting with peers who share similar commitments to faith, justice, and service.

In **partnership with the Justo and Catherine González Resource Center** the program launched a special track dedicated to writing for print publication. This initiative has guided participants through the process of developing their voices as writers, preparing them for contributions. This yearlong track will offer young líderes the opportunity to build their proposals.

The Young Líderes program continues to serve as a vital space for equipping and accompanying emerging leaders within the Latin/a/o/x community. Through a series of online gatherings, the program has provided opportunities for growth in leadership development and skills for writing for print publication, preparing participants to engage meaningfully in their communities and within broader theological conversations. **We are meeting in person next month in San Dimas, CA!**



**Maylin Escala**  
Young Líderes Program  
Consultant





## LS25 Preaching and Migration: Identity, Trauma and Technique

Esteemed community,

**Migration is not just movement; it is a story of identity, resilience, and faith.** From Genesis to Revelation, **the Bible bears witness to human mobility as an essential part of the experience of God's people.** Throughout history, the church has journeyed with communities on the move, facing challenges and embracing new opportunities.

This is reflected in the life of the church, where migration has been a constant. Preachers are called to proclaim hope as Jesus did in the midst of a world lacking identity, suffering from trauma caused by human displacement, and living during complex and polarized contexts.

**Along with the Lilly Endowment and Garrett Theological Seminary, we bring this 8<sup>th</sup> conference series together with experts, scholars, theologians, missiologists, pastors, psychologists, anthropologists, ministry leaders, and prophetic voices to explore the intersection of preaching and migration.** How can our preaching honor identity in the lived experiences of migrants? How do we address trauma with pastoral sensitivity and theological depth?

Join us as we equip, inspire, and challenge one another to be a voice of justice and grace in a world and a church on the move.

The poster features a purple background with a faint image of hands holding a globe. At the top, the title "LS25 Preaching and Migration: Identity, Trauma and Technique" is displayed in white. To the right is the AETH logo, which consists of a stylized white 'A' above the text "AETH" and "Asociación para la Educación Teológica Hispana". Below the title, there are 21 circular portraits of speakers arranged in four rows. The first row has three portraits, the second and third rows have six each, and the fourth row has six. Below the portraits, the dates "OCTOBER 9-11, 2025" are shown in a yellow banner, followed by the location "Life Pacific University in San Dimas, California" in a purple banner. A disclaimer states: "This program is sponsored by AETH. Use of this Facility does not constitute support of or endorsement by Life Pacific University." At the bottom, there is a "Learn more" link with icons for aeth.org, Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter, and the AETH logo. Logos for Lilly Endowment Inc. and Garrett are also present.

**LS25 Preaching and Migration: Identity, Trauma and Technique**

**AETH**  
Asociación para la Educación Teológica Hispana

Dr. Alma Tinoco Ruiz | Dr. Justo González | Dr. Oscar García

Rev. Dr. Harold Segura | Dra. Alexia Salvatierra | Dra. Kimberly Rios-Lam | Yenny Delgado | Dr. Marty Harris | Rev. Catherine González

Dr. David Vázquez-Levy | Dr. Wilmer Estrada | Dr. Robert Chao Romero | Rev. Lori Tapia | Dr. Oscar Merlo | Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Conde-Frazier

Dr. Pablo Anabalón | Rev. Guesnerth Josué | Rev. Dr. Jessica Lugo | Rev. Carlos Malavé | Rev. Robert Rocha Jr. | Daniel Montañez

Dr. Jeffrey Caballero | Richard Santiago | Dra. Andrea Canales

**OCTOBER 9-11, 2025**

**Life Pacific University in San Dimas, California**

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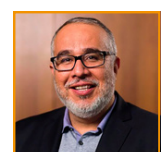
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Garrett

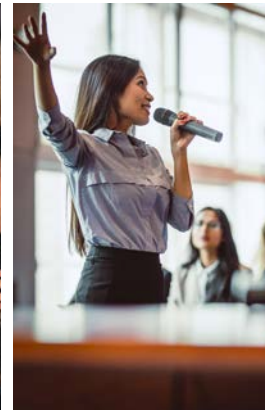
**Oscar Merlo, Ph.D., MBA, MAICS**

Program Consultant: Compelling Preaching & the National Initiative to Strengthen Hispanic Pastoral Leaders and Congregations





## Short Course: La Mujer y la Predicación



# La mujer y la predicación

**CURSO CORTO**

"La mujer y la predicación" es un curso esencial que afirma el llamado, la voz y ministerio de las mujeres en el púlpito. **Explora fundamentos bíblicos, históricos y prácticos** que hacen de este tema una urgencia teológica y pastoral para la iglesia de hoy.

**Inscríbete, muy pronto en nuestra página**



**PROFESORAS:**



**REV. DRA. JESSICA LUGO**  
Directora Ejecutiva AETH



**REV. LAURA AYALA**  
Coordinadora Global de Misiones  
Cooperative Baptist Fellowship



**REV. LORI TAPIA**  
Pastora Nacional  
ICBC Obra Hispana



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Asociación para la Educación Teológica Hispana

## BE PART OF HISTORY: SIGN UP NOW

# Antioquía: New Podcast



September 2025 - Year 2, Volume 3

The **Association for Hispanic Theological Education (AETH)** and its **Antioquía** program, in partnership with **Candler School of Theology**, are pleased to announce the launch of their new podcast **ECOS**, a space created to amplify voices, share reflections, and generate meaningful conversations around theological education and the life of our communities.

**Every Monday at 5:00 p.m.** (EST), you can join us live and be part of this experience through our broadcasts on Facebook and YouTube.

With ECOS, we seek to walk alongside leaders, students, teachers, and faith communities, offering content that inspires, informs, and motivates us to continue transforming realities.



Follow us on **Facebook** and subscribe to our **YouTube** channel, @SomosAETH.

Join us in this new chapter of our mission.

## AETH Fundraising & Growth Update | Q4 2025

### Thank you for being part of AETH's growth!

This quarter, we celebrate new steps toward a stronger, more connected, and more accessible AETH for our communities. We're excited to share recent milestones in our mission to strengthen Hispanic theological education and how you can continue to be part of this impact.

### Our New Donation Website Is Live!

We're thrilled to announce the launch of our brand-new donation portal:

**Visit us and make  
your donation here:**



This new page is a tool to help us continue growing together in the future of theological formation within the Hispanic community. **We invite you to explore it, use it, and share it with others.**

*"I want to express my deepest gratitude to AETH for offering us this opportunity for both institutional and personal growth. The certification process was demanding, but profoundly enriching—it led us to reflect more deeply on our mission, our students, and our commitment to a theological education of excellence, contextualized to our Latin American reality."*

*"I'm especially thankful for the close guidance, the professionalism of every resource offered, and the clarity with which we were led throughout the process. This experience has strengthened us as a community of faith and learning."*

*"Thank you for helping us walk in excellence as we serve the Lord!"*



**Fernando Puig Ramassat** is a student of the Universidad Teológica del Caribe (UTC) and a member of AETH







## Because of your support...



- We continue equipping leaders and pastors with relevant, contextualized tools.



- We support theological institutions through certification and institutional development programs.



- We are building a strong community of allies, donors, and visionary partners—just like you.

**Would you like to share your story or your institution's testimony?**

Email us at: [info@aeth.org](mailto:info@aeth.org)

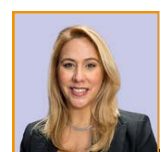
Thank you for walking with us in this mission.

With gratitude,

*The AETH Team*

Fundraising & Growth Department

**Shaila Muñoz**  
Growth & Fundraising Consultant





# Masterclass de Noviembre

05



**Recursos pastorales** para el Adviento, con enfoque en **Storytelling** basado en lecturas contextuales de los textos de Adviento

RECURSO:  
**Dr. Harold Segura**



## HORARIOS POR ZONA:

4:30pm California

6:30pm Colombia

7:30pm Miami

8:30pm Puerto Rico

8:30pm Argentina

12



**El Nacimiento del Mesías:** virtudes homiléticas, educativas y espirituales

RECURSO:  
**Dr. Samuel Pagán**

### Aportación:

**\$10 p/p USD**  
**Beca de \$5 para Latinoamérica**  
**Gratis para miembros**

**Escribe a [info@aeth.org](mailto:info@aeth.org) para más detalles**

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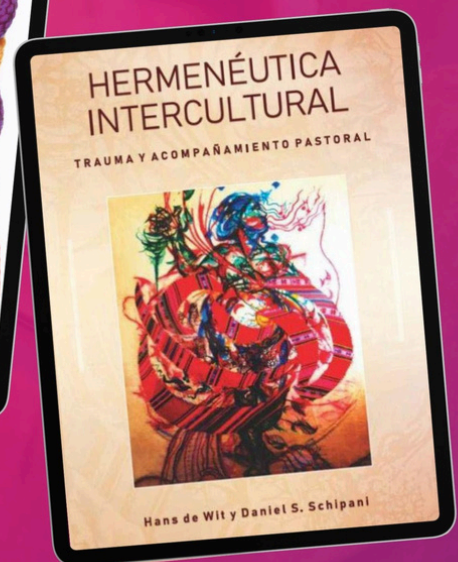
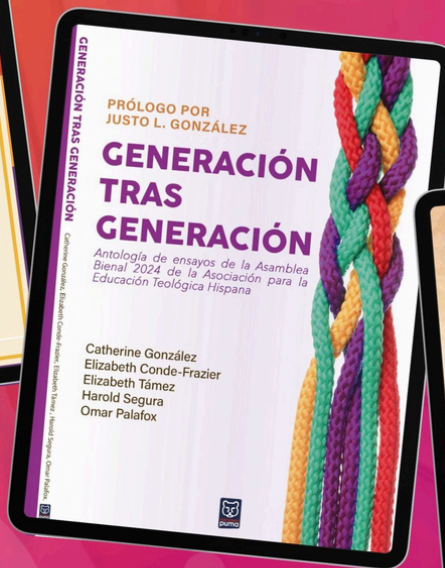
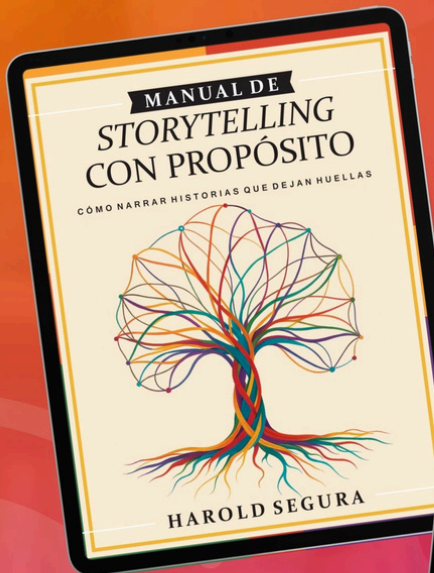
**#SomosAETH**



# New releases: Pre-sale of the 3 books

newsletter  
**ecos**

September 2025 - Year 2, Volume 3



## LIBRERÍA DIGITAL DE AETH

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